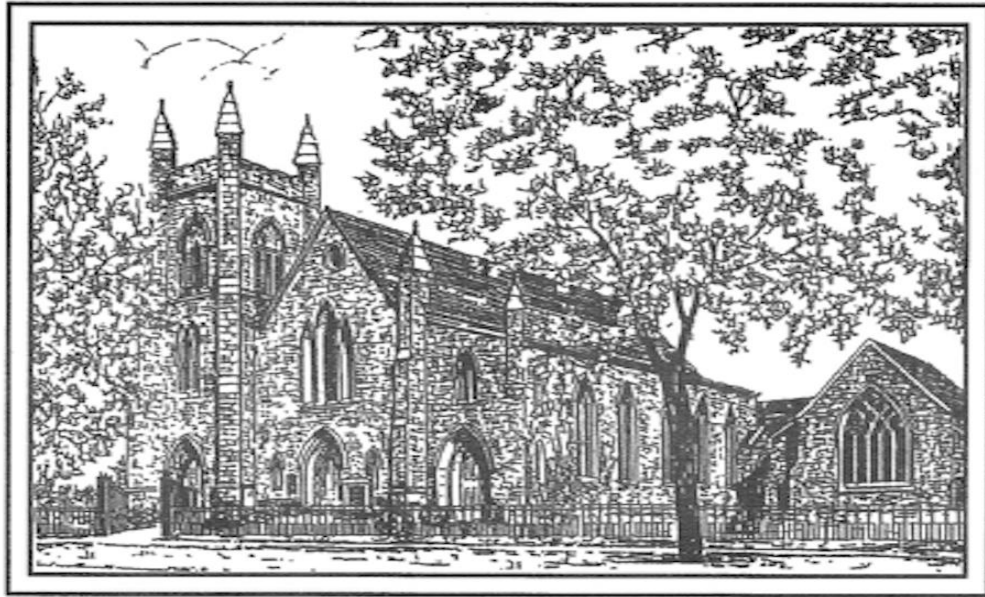


# First Congregational Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Founded in 1680



*Living the Love and Justice of Jesus*

## TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST A HYMN SING

**August 31, 2025 ~ 10:00 am**

**Gathering Music**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

**Bringing Forth the Light of Christ**

Acolytes

**\*Call to Worship**

One: Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to God.

**Many: Happy are those who revere the Holy One. One generation to another delights in God's blessings.**

One: Sing aloud to God our righteousness; shout for peace to God.

**Many: We rise from the depths in mercy, grace, and justice.**

One: Sing aloud to God our hope; shout for love to God.

**Many: Our hearts are steady and secure. Worship the Holy One! Amen.**

**\*Invocation**

**O Living God of past and future, we praise you for this present moment. Fill us with your joy and empower us with your Holy Spirit so that we are renewed to sing a new song of your glory in a world that longs for your justice and peace. All this we ask in the name of Jesus through whom we become your new creation. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

“Shall We Gather at the River”

NCH #597

**First Reading from the Old Testament**

Psalm 149: 1-5,9a

Praise the Lord!  
Sing to the Lord a new song,  
sing praises in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel be glad in its Maker;  
let the children of Zion rejoice in their Majesty.  
Let them praise the Lord's name with dancing,  
making melody with tambourine and lyre.  
For the Lord takes pleasure in the people;  
the Lord adorns the humble with victory.  
Let the faithful exult in glory;  
let them sing for joy on their couches.  
This is glory for all the faithful ones.  
Praise the Lord!

Reader: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us  
ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!

**Second Reading from the Old Testament**

2 Chronicles 5:11-14

Now when the priests came out of the holy place (or all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without regard to their divisions), all the levitical singers, Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun, their sons and kindred, arrayed in fine linen, with cymbals, harps, and lyres, stood east of the altar with one hundred and twenty priests who were trumpeters, it was the duty of the trumpeters and singers to make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the Lord. And, when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the Lord, “For God is good, for God's steadfast love endures forever,” the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

Reader: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us  
ALL: **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**\*Hymn**

“When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

NCH #561

**Message**

A Hymn Sing

Rev. Dr. Nancy Hamlin Soukup

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**The Pastoral Prayer**

**Our Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Prayer Response

*Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen*

## Offertory Invitation

### The Offertory

#### \*The Doxology PH #515

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### \*Prayer of Dedication

Holy, Holy, Holy God, be glorified in our giving. Receive and magnify these gifts so that needs will be met, communities transformed, and lives renewed. We dedicate them in your precious name. Amen.

#### \*Closing Hymn

“O for a World”

NCH#575

#### \*Benediction

#### \*Benediction Response

“Hallelujah”

NCH #236

## Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

### Postlude

~ Leading Worship today is the Rev. Dr. Nancy Hamlin Soukup ~  
~ Our Music Director and Organist is Nikita Zabinski ~  
~ Our greeters today are Janine Beausoleil, Eleanor Ingraham & Clifford Gustafson ~

## Return to Worship in Sanctuary

Next Sunday, September 7, we will return to the Sanctuary for our 10:00 a.m. service



## Prayer List for Sunday, August 31, 2025

### For concerns in the world:

For all children and youth who are returning to school this week.

Members of our local community who are experiencing food insecurity as well as frustration about access to health care.

The Palestinian people who are suffering under a humanitarian crisis because needed aid has been prevented from reaching them on the border with Israel. The Israeli hostages who still languish in Gaza. The Palestinian and Israeli people that peace will one day prevail in the ancient land of our spiritual ancestors.

Peace in the Middle East and wisdom for the leaders of the world and all those who have lost their lives in recent conflicts.

Peace in the Ukraine

**For those in need of healing on our prayer list:**

Kathy Conoway, Sug Grant's niece, who has Stage 4 Breast Cancer, which had been in remission but has probably reoccurred  
Kathy, Jen Johnson's cousin, who has decided to return home against her doctor's recommendation; prayers for her safety and for Jen's Uncle Paul's safety as he tries to care for Kathy  
Kristen, calling on all available angels to gather around Kristen as she undergoes extensive chemotherapy treatments with a minimum of pain and discomfort  
Camille Pansa and Grace Steere, who are recovering from falls  
Sarah, Celeste's niece, who is nine years old and is waiting for a liver transplant  
Steve, Amanda, and Elliana Wiacek, Ed Wiacek's son and family, who will begin a three-year diplomatic tour at the U.S. Embassy in Manila, Philippines.  
Nick Chaconne, for recovery  
Christy, a friend of Lynne Ramos, who has been ill with considerable pain; for her medical team, and her wife Becky as they navigate Christy's latest illness  
Ryan Higgins, Lilly Kilvert's son-in-law, who has Leukemia  
A beloved son, who is suffering from Leukemia  
Marty Costianes  
Renee that she may find resolutions to issues pressing in on her  
Family and friends who seek hope and healing in mind, body, and spirit  
Prayers for all victims of violence  
Roxanne, who is now dealing with breast cancer  
Claudia and her family, as she enters hospice  
Scott, Brenda, and Cameron, who need divine guidance and strength to follow God's path for them  
Max, for healing and freedom, and for his Mom  
Robin Vestal, who has Stage 4 Duodenal Cancer, and her husband Ulysses, who are friends of the Grant family  
Peter MacDonald, who has Lung Cancer  
Rusty, who has Lung Cancer  
Ellie's Dad, who she misses  
Carol, Karen's cousin, who had brain surgery  
Carrigan, who has cancer, and for Carrigan's nurse, Kristen, who is also being treated for breast cancer  
Tyler, who is making a steady recovery from a bone transplant  
Ken Latham in Leicester, MA, who is on chemotherapy for Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma  
Those who have lost their way may have wisdom, courage, and strength  
Harriet  
Ryan  
Mark E., who has an aggressive form of prostate cancer  
Fred Davis, who has stomach cancer  
Meriel Smith  
Charlotte Griffith  
Kellie and Juan Morales's daughter  
Bruce C., who is in rehab, and Pat P., both friends of Ed Wiacek  
Caregivers in our congregation

**For those who have died:**

Gail Delgado, Gina Damiano's wife, who died on Monday afternoon, and for Gina and their children Alexandra and Andrew who mourn Gail  
Becky Chase, whose wife Christy, passed away last week.

**Upcoming Birthdays:**

Matthew Benson 08/30		
Pam Vagnini 09/01	Gary Butler 09/04	Amy Halt 09/05
Isabella Crouse 9/08	Katie Evans 09/09	Sug Grant 09/10
Caleb Walsh 09/10	Erin Donovan 09/11	Douglas Fisher 09/13
Alexandra Delgado Damiano 09/18		Shannon Evans 09/21
Megan Fisher 09/23	Sandy Patterson 09/25	
Jacob Johnson 09/25	John Vaughan 09/29	

**What's on the Church Calendar**

**Aug. 31, 2025 Sunday Worship: 10:00am**

Sept. 01, 2024 Monday HOLIDAY Labor Day office is closed

Sept. 02, 2024 Tuesday Prayer Shawl Circle 6:30pm (Guiteras House)

Sept. 03, 2024 Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)

**Sept. 07, 2024 Sunday Worship 10:00am**

Sept. 09, 2024 Tuesday Facility meeting 7:00pm (DeWolf Room)

Sept. 10, 2024 Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)

Sept. 11, 2024 Thursday Deacons Meeting 7:00pm (Guiteras House)

**Sept. 14, 2024 Sunday Worship Rally Day 10:00am**

Sept. 16, 2024 Tuesday Church Council Meeting 7:00pm (Guiteras House)

Sept. 17, 2024 Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)

Sept. 21, 2024 Sunday Worship 10:00am

Sept. 24, 2024 Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)

Sept. 27, 2024 Saturday Bristol Stone Church Coffee House ( DeWolf Room)

**Sept. 28, 2024 Sunday Worship 10:00am**

Please visit our website for more information about the Church and its events: **[fccbristol.org](https://fccbristol.org)**

**"Invitation to Share Time, Talent, and Treasure"**

When you give to First Congregational Church, you make possible our ministries that serve all God's people. Your gifts share the love of Jesus all year long. The act of giving is our personal expression of worship and also keeps our church financially healthy. Stewardship is not payment for services rendered. It is an act of faith and devotion to God. You may go to the following link to give now: <https://fccbristol.org/support-us/>.



NCH = New Century Hymnal (black hymnal) and PH = Pilgrim Hymnal (red hymnal)

Sources and Credits: Hymn tune names - as well as composers of the music and authors of the text - are listed in the hymnals with each hymn. CCLI License #1958911 and One License.Net #A-728124.

Sources for this service are written by or adapted from the following: Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Places of Honor: Service Prayers for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, UCC Worship Names, After Pentecost 12C - August 31 - United Church of Christ; Rev. Susan A. Blain and Rev. Scott Ressman, All Things New, <http://www.ucc.org/50/pdfs/worship-resources.pdf>, re:Worship: Opening Prayer: A New Song; and Bruce Prewer, <http://www.bruceprewer.com/Doc/C51sun22.htm>, re:Worship: Proper 17 C.

**Church Office Hours** are Tuesday – Friday 10:00am – 2:00pm

Office e-mail address: [office@FCCBristol.org](mailto:office@FCCBristol.org)

**Pastoral Office Hours** Tuesday – Thursday, 9am – 1pm

You may also schedule an appointment by contacting Rev. Nancy.

Church office line 401/253-7288 or e-mail [office@FCCbristol.org](mailto:office@FCCbristol.org)

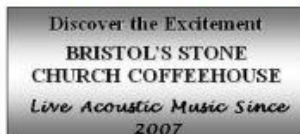
## Bristol's Stone Church Coffeehouse Presents

*An Evening of Americana, Roots Music Featuring  
Neal and The Vipers*



**Saturday, September 27, 2025**    **First Congregational Church**  
Doors open at 6:45pm                      300 High Street  
Music starts at 7:30pm                      (Corner of Bradford and High St)  
Bristol, RI 02809

Tickets are \$25.00; Students are Half Price; Children 5 and Under are Free  
Seating is Limited and Early Reservations are Recommended.  
Please Call 401-253-4813 for reservations or ticket information.



## East Bay Food Pantry

Good morning!! ☀️ We are in need of breakfast items! 🥣  
Please consider donating cereal, breakfast bars and non-dairy milk (shelf stable only!) to help stock our food pantry.  
You can drop off donations during any of our open hours.  
Thank you! ✨

## Pantry Items Needed



Cereal



Breakfast  
bars



Non-dairy milk  
(shelf stable)

## Breakfast, please!

**Drop off donations any time we're open!**  
Mon, Tue 10-4, Wed 10-6:30, Fri 10-3, Sat 10-4



## BRISTOL'S STONE CHURCH COFFEEHOUSE 2025 –2026 Season

September 27, 2025	Neal and The Vipers	American Roots Music	<a href="http://www.NealandTheVipers.com">www.NealandTheVipers.com</a>
October 25, 2025	Porch Party Mamas	Urban Folk, Country, Blues	<a href="http://www.PorchPartyMamas.com">www.PorchPartyMamas.com</a>
November 8, 2025	Studio Two	Beatles Tribute Band	<a href="http://StudioTwoTributeBand.com">StudioTwoTributeBand.com</a>
December 2025	No Show		
January 24, 2026	Ellis Paul	Folk Music	<a href="http://www.EllisPaul.com">www.EllisPaul.com</a>
February 28, 2026	Kevin Doyle's Roscommon Soles	Irish Music and Dance	<a href="http://www.kevindoyledance.com">www.kevindoyledance.com</a>
March 28, 2026	Dirty Cello	Blues, Americana, Rock	<a href="http://www.DirtyCello.com">www.DirtyCello.com</a>
April 25, 2026	The Clements Brothers	Roots, Bluegrass, Jazz	<a href="http://www.TheClementsBrothers.com">www.TheClementsBrothers.com</a>
May 9, 2026	Tracy Grammer & Jim Henry	Contemporary Folk Music	<a href="http://www.TracyGrammer.com">www.TracyGrammer.com</a>

Bristol's Stone Church Coffee House is located at the First Congregational Church (300 High Street in Bristol, RI).

Seating is limited. Early reservations are recommended.

Doors open at 6:45pm. All shows start at 7:30pm.

For ticket information, ticket purchase or to inquire about season tickets, please call 253-4813.

\* Tickets are \$25 for adults; students are half price; children 5 and under are free.



96th Annual  
First Congregational Church  
300 High St Bristol RI

# HARVEST MOON BAZAAR

NOV 22  
10 AM TO 3 PM

**FREE PICTURES  
WITH SANTA!**

**CHICKEN SALAD  
CHILI &  
HOT CIDER**

**BAKED GOODS  
HANDMADE KNITS  
CRAFTS  
FLOWERS & VENDORS  
SILENT AUCTION!!**

2025

## First Congregational Church

### Team Trivia Friday Night's

*October 10<sup>th</sup>, November 14<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>,  
March 13, and April 10, 2025 @ 7PM*

### Ask Friends and Family and Come Join the Fun

- Up to 8 per Team
- No Charge
- Bring Snacks and a Beverage
- Light Refreshments and Snacks will be available
- Prizes for the Top Finishers
- Call (401) 253-4813 to pre-register your team or send an email to [dubordrjd@cox.net](mailto:dubordrjd@cox.net)



- Who is buried in Grant's tomb?
- What is John Quincy Adams' middle name?
- What is one more than five?

At 300 High Street • Bristol, Rhode Island 02809  
Church Office (401) 253-7288 • Office@FCCBristol.org